

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims are formal in nature and are made to clarify and more particularly state the Applicants' invention. Support for new claims 40-50 is found, for example, on page 5, lines 20-27; page 6, lines 1-8; and page 8, lines 15-24 of the specification. Support for new claims 51-54 is found, for example, on page 3, lines 1-8; page 7, lines 23-27; and page 8, lines 1-14. No new matter is added by these amendments.

If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Date: December 20, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



Kristina Bieker-Brady
Reg. No. 39,109

Clark & Elbing LLP
176 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-428-0200
Facsimile: 617-428-7045

\\\\Ntserver\\documents\\00246\\00246.505003 Preliminary Amendment.wpd